

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USBERL 00295 280616Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
ACDA-07 /065 W
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R 271715Z JAN 77
FM USMISSIO USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3908

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 0295

E.O.11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, WB, UR
SUBJECT: AMBASSADORIAL LUNCHEON: LFLAG TOURS

AT EMBASSY'S BONN'S REQUEST WE ARE REPEATING TO YOU
A TEXT OF BRITISH INTR-BERLIN MESSAGE ON PORTION OF
AMBASSADORIAL LUNCHEON DEALING WITH ALLIED MILITARY
GROUND PATROLS IN EAST BERLIN.
FOLLOWING TELEGRAM (BRIB UNNUMBERED OF 21 AJAN 77) IS
REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION:

QUOTE

SUBJECT : AMBASSADORIAL LUNCH : FLAG TOURS

REFERENCE : BRIB 42

1. YOU MIGHT LIKE TO KNOW OF SOME ADDITIONAL COMMENTS MADE BY
ABRASIMOV TO OUR AMBASSADOR ON 19 JANUARY ABOUT THE CONDUCT OF
ALLIED, AND MORE ESPECIALLY AMERICAN, PATROLS IN EAST BERLIN.

2. ABRASIMOV PICKED UP A POINT WHICH SIR O WRIGHT HAD MADE
ABOUT ALLIED RIGHTS IN EAST BERLIN. AS ALREADY RECORDED HE
MAINTAINED THAT THE UK HAD NO RIGHTS IN THE QUOTE CAPITAL OF THE
GDR UNQUOTE, ONLY RESPONSIBILITIES - THE RESPONSIBILITY TO
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RESPECT THE CAPITAL OF A SOVEREIGN STATE. ONE RIGHT ACTUALLY
MAINTAINED WAS THAT OF UNHINDERED ACCESS BY ALLIED MILITARY
PERSONNEL AND OFFICIALS OF THE THREE POWERS ADMINISTRATION.
THE SOVIET UNION PUT UP WITH INSPECTION PATROLS. THE AMERICANS
IN PARTICULAR SENT NUMEROUS VEHICLES. THEIR OCCUPANTS CAME AND
WENT AS THEY PLEASED AND MAINTAINED OBSERVATION OF THE COMINGS AND
GOINGS AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY. HE HAD RECENTLY POSTED EMBASSY

OFFICIALS TO WATCH THIS GOING ON. ON AVERAGE 10-12 PATROL CARS PER WEEK MOVED BACK AND FORTH PAST THE SOVIET EMBASSY AND, PHOTOGRAPHS WERE TAKEN OF ALL PEOPLE ARRIVING AND LEAVING THE BUILDING. THIS WAS SOMETHING HE COULD TOLERATE BUT ONLY UP TO A CERTAIN POINT. IT COULD NOT BE SAID THAT A SINGLE SOVIET PATROL CAR HAD EVEN APPROACHED BMG. JUST ONCE PER WEEK ON AVERAGE A SOVIET CAR VISITED EACH OF THE THREE WESTERN SECTORS. BUT SENDING 10-12 CARS TO OBSERVE THE SOVIET EMBASSY WAS GOING A BIT FAR. THE ALLIES SHOULD THEMSELVES REDUCE THIS. SUCH A DEMONSTRATION WAS NEITHER CALLED FOR OF NECESSARY.

3. WE ARE SURE THAT ABRASIMOV MENTIONED QUOTE AMERICAN UNQUOTE PATROLS SPECIFICALLY. WE CANNOT GUESS AT HIS MOTIVES IN RAISING THE MATTER WITH US, NOR DO I WISH TO ENQUIRE AFTER YOUR PRACTICES. BUT I THOUGHT YOU SHOULD BE FOREWARNED IN CASE ABRASIMOV RETURNS TO THE CHARGE WITH AMBASSADOR STOESSEL.

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NNN

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